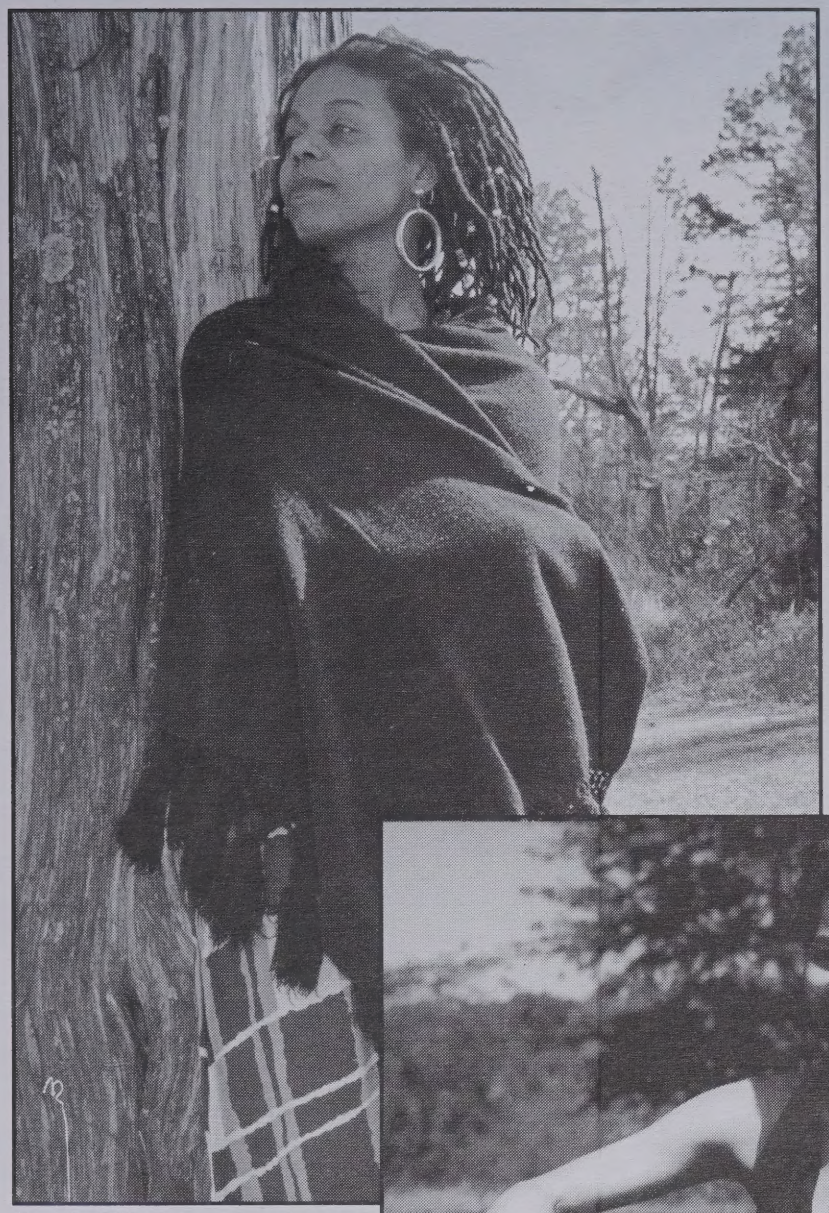
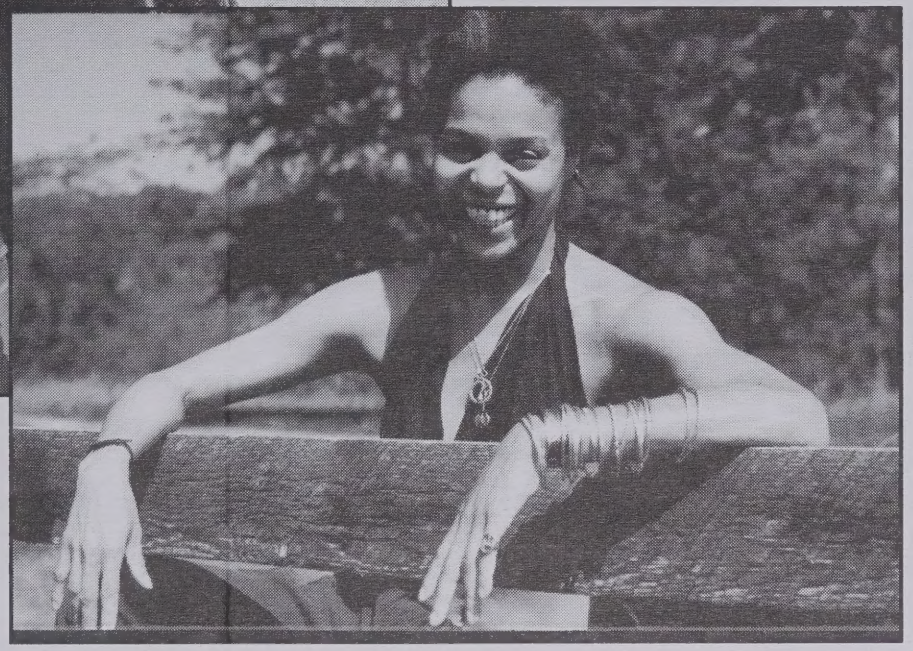


Photo by Calvin Ferguson

Poetry
Humor
Drama
Music
Storytelling

"everyone's beginning was
a once upon a time and
nobody meant to grow up to be
mediocre, mundane, or meaningless...
so let's start there.
beyond the ordinary and
once upon a time..."

doris j. davenport



Programs

Creative Writing Workshops: Grades 3-12

Uses students' experiences as source for writing. Incorporates music, poetry cassettes, handouts, videos, and 1-2 books, depending on length and breadth of program. Requires total involvement of students in small group peer editing, collaborative creation, performance and discussion. *Length: Flexible. 1-2 hours; 1-4 weeks.*

Multicultural Literature & Education in the USA: Teachers, Professors, Administrators, Parents.

A basic workshop or mini-seminar. Begins with a non-threatening presentation on attitudes and awareness. Includes resources, references and suggestions from vocabulary and "thinking habits" to bibliography of selected works. Goal: to understand the approach as "do-able," without a huge added work load, and to gain an understanding of multi-culturalism as an enjoyable experience. Maximum participants: 40. *Length: Variable. 1-4 hours; 3-7 days.*

Lectures: Students, Faculty, Community Groups.

Topics such as African-American literature, The Blues and Black Literature, Contemporary Women's Literature: "Feminism 101," and Poetry: A Personal Perspective. Discussion, question/answer session afterwards. *Length: 1-2 hours.*

Poetry Performances:

A. ***"Soquee Street"***: One-hour show using music, storytelling, and poetry from new book about her African-American community in the foothills of Appalachia, Northeast Georgia. An upbeat, joyous, love-filled, communal performance.

B. ***Dramatic Readings.*** From all four books and works in progress. Selections geared to specific needs and audience makeup. *Length: 60-90 minutes.*

doris juanita davenport

BIO BORN JANUARY 29, 1949 in Gainesville, GA; Davenport was raised in Cornelia, GA where she started writing when she was eleven years old to entertain herself. Davenport has a B.A. in English from Paine College in Augusta, GA (1969) and a Ph.D. (literature) from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. For more than twenty years, she has taught at colleges and universities across the USA. In April, 1992, she returned to Cornelia. She has published three books of poetry: *it's like this; eat thunder & drink rain* and *voodoo chile/slight return.* (*eat thunder* has been translated into Italian.) She has also published numerous essays, articles, and book reviews.

Davenport has received writing grants from the Kentucky Foundation for Women, the North Carolina Arts Council, the Syvenna Foundation for Women, and the Georgia Council for the Arts. Her most recently finished book of poetry is *Soquee Street,* based on the Appalachian, African-American communities where she grew up. Since April, 1993, Davenport has been involved in Arts in Education programs and workshops in secondary schools in North Carolina & Georgia.

References & Recommendations

"When you were a little girl you practiced writing poetry and I am a little girl too and your poetry came out really good and maybe mine will turn out good too."

-Emily Stark, 4th Grade
William Randolph Gifted & Talented School, Asheville, NC

"Dr. Davenport was able to come into my classroom as a total stranger, and cause my students to open up their innermost souls through poetry in ways I didn't dream possible!...Through her [workshop] strategies, students who were very inhibited opened up and shared their innermost thoughts. Many of the activities implemented, I have utilized several times and my students are still interested in the activities."

-Kenneth D. Bonaparte
6th Grade Teacher, River Road Elem. School, Columbus, GA

"When Doris Davenport held workshops for my academically gifted children (grades 6-8), they were enthralled. 'She treated us like we were worthy, real people,' one girl said. One of my reader-achieving children said, "I think she's great because she likes us and laughed and cried and hooted at our poems.' Students felt Doris to be in tune with them--their feelings, their ideas. She made them give their own poetry reading; she won them over right there! She selflessly put them first. We love you. She is great with children."

-Patricia W. Berne
Teacher, Academically Gifted Prog., Fairview Sch. Sylva, NC

"Strong, lively poetry presented with vigor, personality, and unfailing attention to her audience. I don't think I've ever dealt with a writer who has given so much to a reading. From costume, to music, to every last detail of staging and delivery, Doris' presentation showed a passionate determination to make her poetry as accessible to her audience as possible. Her sense of poetic timing is uncanny, and her eye for image and story always focused. No wonder, then, that I highly recommend Doris Davenport as a poet, performer, and teacher of extraordinary ability and appeal."

-Kathryn Stripling Byer
Poet-in-Residence & Director of Visiting Writers Series,
Western Carolina University, NC

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APPALACHIAN AFRICAN-AMERICAN

doris juanita davenport

EDUCATOR, PERFORMANCE
POET, LECTURER, WRITER,
WORKSHOP LEADER

I know - you got 10; & it's out dated. — Have another, maybe.